

bewildering machinations with no little skill and ingenuity. His book can be safely recommended to that large body of readers who prefer incident to character; whilst those who enjoy a good detective story cannot do better than follow the famous Tanquerville step by step in his search for the clue that will enable him to lay his hands upon Professor Frayling's murderer, and discover the secret of his death.

MEDICAL AND SURGICAL APPLIANCES.

Blood Examinations in General Practice.

DR. P. G. HARVEY (Monmouth) writes: I do a good deal blood work and bacteriological examination, but being in general practice in the country, naturally at very irregular intervals. I have experienced considerable trouble with my reagents, especially with Jenner's and Leishman's stains, Lugol's fluid and Toison's fluid. Tablets of stains and reagents are of course very handy, but they require preparation, and some of them some time before they are fit for use; whilst those requiring methyl alcohol for their preparation, owing to the trouble of getting a reliable sample, are especially troublesome. At my suggestion Messrs. Phillip Harris and Co., Edmund Street, Birmingham, have prepared sealed ampoules of various stains and reagents.

Jenner's stain.

Leishman's stain, $\frac{1}{2}$ c.cm.

Distilled water, 1 c.cm.

Lugol's solution for Gram's stain.

Toison's fluid.

Acetic acid 0.3 per cent., with methyl green, for white corpuscles in blood counts.

I have tested several of these at intervals, comparing the results with films, etc., stained from similar reagents taken from $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and 1 oz. bottles obtained at the same time, and the results are far superior. I venture to think that many men situated as I am, who like to do such work occasionally, will find these ampoules extremely convenient. Messrs. Harris are prepared to put up any other reagents in the same way if the demand is large enough. I have to thank Mr. T. Elliott, of Messrs. Harris's laboratory, for the trouble he has taken in carrying out my suggestion. The prices run from 1s. to 1s. 6d. a dozen.

A Bed Support.

Messrs. H. Aitken and Co. of York have recently brought out under the name of the Captain Edwyn Walker's Bedstop a very simple device for preventing patients slipping towards the foot of the bed when in a semi-recumbent position. It consists of a cylinder of wood encased in a coating of stout cloth or other resilient material, which is covered in its turn by waterproof, so that the appliance when complete forms a kind of round cushion some 16 in. long, with a circumference of about 9 in. It is brought into use by placing it just below the patient's buttocks. The outer covering is detachable for cleansing and is supplied in flannel as well as in waterproof material.

It is announced that a gift of £200,000 has been made to the district of California by Mrs. George William Hooper of San Francisco, to be devoted to the establishment of an Institute for Medical Research. The gift is intended as a memorial to her husband.

It is reported, according to the *New York Medical Journal*, that the clergy of the various denominations in the Oranges, New Jersey, will in future require that persons intending to marry, brides as well as bridegrooms, shall furnish certificates of health along with the marriage licence before the ceremony is performed.

THE fourth Congress of the International Surgical Society will take place in New York in April, 1914 (14th to 18th). The following subjects are proposed for discussion: Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum, to be introduced by Drs. de Quervain, Hartmann, Mayo, Sir Berkeley Moynihan, and Dr. Payr; grafting in plastic surgery, M. Morestin; grafting of blood vessels, M. Villard; grafting and transplantation, Drs. Ulmann and Lexer; transplantation of organs, Dr. Alexis Carrel; technique of amputations in general, Dr. Witzel; amputation of the arm and forearm, Dr. Ceci; amputation of the hand and upper part of the thigh, Dr. Kuzmik; amputation of the leg and foot, Drs. Binnie, Durand, and Ranzi. Arrangements have been made for a visit to the chief cities of the United States by the congressists.

SEVENTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF MEDICINE (LONDON, 1913).

SECTION OF OPHTHALMOLOGY.

THE lamented death of Sir Henry Swanzy on April 12th deprived the Section of a president who had devoted much time and attention to its affairs for more than two years. Sir Anderson Critchett, a former vice-president of the section, has consented to fill the vacancy so created, although recognizing the difficulties inseparable from so late an assumption of office.

The meetings of the section will be held in the Mechanics Laboratory, Royal School of Science, Exhibition Road, South Kensington. The following is an outline of the arrangements:

On Wednesday, August 6th, the Section will meet at 3 p.m., when a brief address of welcome will be given by the President. The arrangements for the meetings will be announced, and the reading of independent papers will then be begun. On the succeeding days the meetings will begin at 9.30 a.m. and 3 p.m., except on Saturday, on which day there will be no afternoon session.

The morning session on Thursday, Friday, Monday, and Tuesday will be devoted to discussions, although, if time permit, independent communications may be taken after the discussion. The subjects which have been chosen, the names of the openers, and the day selected for each discussion are as follows:

Thursday, August 7th.—The pathogenesis of chronic uveitis, excluding the syphilitic, tuberculous, and sympathetic varieties. Professor Fuchs (Vienna), Professor de Schweinitz (Philadelphia).

Friday, August 8th.—Glaucoma operations, with special reference to the comparative results obtained by iridectomy and its recent substitutes. Professor Lagrange (Bordeaux), Professor Priestley Smith (Birmingham), Lieutenant-Colonel Elliott (I.M.S.).

Monday, August 11th.—Affections of the eye produced by undue exposure to light. Professor C. von Hess (Munich), Mr. J. Herbert Parsons (London).

Tuesday, August 12th.—Anaphylaxis in its relation to ophthalmology. Dr. Morax (Paris), Dr. von Szily (Freiburg).

The afternoon sessions of the four above-mentioned days will be reserved for the reading and discussion of independent communications. Saturday morning, August 9th, has been set apart for demonstrations.

The sectional dinner will be held at the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, on Thursday, August 7th, at 7.15 for 7.30 p.m., the President of the Section in the chair. Tickets, price £1 1s. inclusive, may be obtained from Mr. W. H. Jessop, 73, Harley Street, after July 1st. The President hopes to entertain members of the Section at luncheons at the De Vere Hotel, Kensington, at the termination of the morning sessions. The secretaries of the Section have also arranged to invite members to luncheons at the Rembrandt Hotel, Cromwell Road. A Ladies' Committee has been formed in order that suitable provision may be made for the entertainment of the wives and daughters of members of congress coming from abroad.

The honorary secretaries of the Section are: For London, Mr. J. B. Lawford, 99, Harley Street, W.; Mr. E. Treacher Collins, 17, Queen Anne Street, W. For Scotland, Dr. Geo. Mackay, 20, Drumshough Gardens, Edinburgh. For Ireland, Dr. L. Werner, 31, Merrion Square, Dublin.

SECTION OF NEUROPATHOLOGY.

The President is Sir David Ferrier, F.R.S., and the Secretaries Henry Head, F.R.S., and Dr. Fred. E. Batten. The meetings will take place in the Plant Physiology Laboratory of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, South Kensington.

The work of the Section will begin on Thursday, August 7th, at 9.30 a.m., when Dr. J. Babinski of Paris and Professor D. Rothmann of Berlin will open a discussion on the symptoms of cerebellar disease and their significance; and MM. André Thomas, M. Mendelssohn, Dr. R. Bárány, and others have signified their intention of taking part in the discussion. At 2.15 p.m. Dr. Bárány will give a demonstration of his method of investigating cases of cerebellar disease.

At the afternoon session, beginning at 3 p.m., a series of papers will be read.

On Friday, August 8th, Professor Déjerine of Paris and Professor Liepmann of Berlin will open a discussion on motor aphasia, anarthria, and apraxia. The discussion will be continued by Drs. Henri Claude, Ernest Dupré, Félix Rose, J. S. Collier, S. A. K. Wilson, V. Monokow, H. Gutzmann, and Heveroch.

At 3 p.m. a meeting will take place at the National Hospital, Queen Square, at which will be exhibited patients illustrating various forms of family and hereditary diseases of the nervous system. There will also be an exhibition of pathological specimens. Tea will be provided in the quadrangle of the hospital at 5 p.m., when it is hoped that ladies will be present.

The sectional dinner will be held at Princes Restaurant, Piccadilly, in the evening at 8 p.m. (Tickets, £1 ls.)

On Saturday, August 9th, Professor Oppenheim, of Berlin, and Professor Spiller, of Philadelphia, will open a discussion on the relations of the myopathies; it will be continued by Drs. Huet, Félix Rose, G. Etienne, Mendelssohn, Batten, Madame Long-Landry, and others. At 2 p.m. papers will be read.

On Monday, August 11th, a joint discussion will be held with the Surgical Section in the Jehangir Hall, University of London, South Kensington, on the treatment of tumours of the brain and the indications for operation. It will be opened by Professor Bruns (Hanover), Professor Cushing (Harvard), Professor v. Eiselsberg (Vienna), and Dr. Tooth. They will be followed by Drs. Babinski, Henri Claude, J. Sicard, Jumentié, de Martel, and others. At 3 p.m. papers will be read.

On Tuesday, August 12th, Dr. F. W. Mott and Professor Nomme (Hamburg) will open a discussion on the nature of the condition termed parasyphilis. The discussion will be continued by Drs. Déjerine, Babinski, J. Sicard, A. Léri, de Massary, Charpentier, Sézary, J. Tinel, G. Etienne, Head, McIntosh, and others. At 2 p.m. papers will be read.

RESEARCH DEFENCE SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting.

THE annual meeting of the Research Defence Society was held at the Royal College of Physicians on June 24th, Sir DAVID GILL, K.C.B., F.R.S. (President), in the chair. Among those present were Sir Thomas Barlow, Lord Cromer, Sir Hugh Bell, Mr. Waldorf Astor, M.P., Bishop Frodsham, sometime of North Queensland, Mr. Sydney Holland (Chairman of the Committee), Dr. F. M. Sandwith (Honorary Treasurer), Mr. Stephen Paget (the Honorary Secretary). Sir William Osler, who was to have spoken, was unable to be present, and expressions of regret for unavoidable absence were sent by Sir Clifford Allbutt, Mr. Otto Beit, Lord Blyth, Lord Robert Cecil, Lord Cheylesmore, Sir James Dewar, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Mr. McAdam Eccles, Lord Faber, Mr. Walter Guinness, Lord Claude Hamilton, Sir Norman Lockyer, Mr. Spencer Lyttelton, Lord Northbrook, Sir Gilbert Parker, Mr. W. F. D. Smith, Sir Edgar Speyer, the Bishop of Stepney, and Mr. Henry S. Wellcome.

Testimony of a Bishop.

Bishop FRODSHAM, who was allowed to speak before the regular proceedings began in order that he might fulfil an engagement elsewhere, said the society had justified its existence. Since its foundation in 1908 it had increased from a small handful to more than 5,000 members and associates. When he accepted the office of Vice-President he anticipated that he would receive a share in the abuse which fell upon the members of the medical profession, and he was not allowed to be disappointed in his anticipation. But he was surprised to receive a little four-paged tract entitled *An Atheistical Bishop*, and to find that he was considered to be that person! The root of his offending was that he was a member of the Research Defence Society, which was guilty of gross cruelty to animals, and therefore unfaithful to Christianity. He instanced that egregious pamphlet because it represented the unfair attacks against scientific research which were constantly being made, and which the society had done so much to refute. In the first place, the society confined its operations to the publication of facts, and only by considerable rhetorical licence could be said to be involved in any charges of cruelty. Then scientific research in this country did not connote cruelty. Lastly, it would be

difficult for objectors to construct a definite case in justification of the statement that research as it was carried on in this country was opposed to Christian teaching. He could with due modesty claim to have had more to do with obscure diseases than the majority of clergymen. There was nothing of which he was more proud in his life than of being instrumental in the formation of the Australian School of Tropical Medicine, where research work was being carried on. He humbly believed that it was an act of service to Him who said, "Inasmuch as ye do it unto one of the least of these My brethren ye do it unto Me." But he had done nothing in comparison with those members of the medical profession who were every day being held up to contumely and abuse. There were stages where the experiments upon animals ceased to be informative; then men experimented upon themselves. What could be said against the Christianity of those young American medical students who allowed themselves to be bitten by the *Szegomyia* mosquito in order to test how long the mosquito could be the host of the yellow fever germ? And yet these men were directly associated with medical research which involved experiments upon animals! He wondered how men who had never faced the horrors of unknown diseases, whose own lives were sheltered by the discoveries of science, dared raise their voice against the Christianity of those who showed over and over again their readiness to make the supreme act of applied Christianity: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." During the past week a correspondent had at much trouble to himself copied out the opinions of ten "notable persons" on what he calls vivisection. The Bishop noted with interest that the oldest of these opinions was given in 1876—the last in 1884—thirty years ago! He believed that many people who were most conscientious in their opposition to medical research were condemning things which might have existed thirty years ago, but which did not exist now. His friend, Dr. Sandwith, asked him to give this society a "mundane benediction." He did not exactly know what he meant. But with grave deliberation and an earnest realization of his own responsibility as a minister of Christ, he declared from a Christian standpoint that he believed research was not only justifiable, but that it was an act of service to Him of whom no higher panegyric could have been written than that simple phrase, "Jesus of Nazareth who went about doing good."

Report of Committee.

The report of the Committee stated that during the past year they had gained more than 400 new members and associates, but they had lost by death many members and associates and eight vice-presidents. The following members of the society had accepted the office of vice-president:—Sir Hugh Bell, Sir John Rose Bradford, Sir Arthur Branfoot, Sir John Brunner, Sir Lauder Brunton, the Dean of Ely, Lord Harlech, Sir William Mather, and Sir John Tweedy. After giving an account of the work of the society in the past year, the report went on to state that during its course several bills had been before the House of Commons for the further restriction or total abolition of experiments on animals, and one of them had reached a second reading. The Home Office had appointed its new Advisory Committee in place of the Association for the Advancement of Medicine by Research. At the annual meeting on May 21st of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the re-election of Lord Cheylesmore to the council of that society was defeated on the ground that he was one of their Vice-Presidents. The number of those who belonged to both societies was about fifty. A strong protest was signed by them against this action of the older society. This protest was drawn up and sent out by their committee. The Council of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, at a special meeting last week, decided to take a poll of all the members, so as to ascertain the general feeling of the society on this important matter. It was hoped that the answers to this referendum would have a good result.

Honorary Treasurer's Report.

Dr. F. M. SANDWITH, in presenting this report, said that the subscriptions received by the parent society in 1911 showed